

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 4 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend Claims 1 to 3, as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of allowing a user to install software on a computer, comprising the steps of:

notifying a sales company of ~~ID~~ credit card information of the user;

communicating the notified ~~ID~~ credit card information of the user and a price of the software from the sales company to ~~an authorizing agency~~ a credit company to request a confirmation of ~~legitimacy of the user having~~ use of the credit card corresponding to the notified the ~~ID~~ credit card information;

confirming the ~~legitimacy of the user~~ use of the credit card and settling an account by the credit card in the ~~authorizing agency~~ credit company in accordance with the notified ~~ID~~ credit card information, the notified price and a limit price set for the card, so as to communicate send a result of the confirmation and a remittance for the notified price to ~~said the~~ sales company;

producing, in the sales company, a first installation key uniquely corresponding to said user on the basis of ~~said ID~~ the credit card information, and issuing the first installation key to said user if the user is confirmed ~~to be a legitimate user~~;

allowing the user to input the first installation key and ~~said ID~~ the credit card information to an installer;

producing, by the installer, a second installation key from the input ~~ID~~ credit card information to obtain a comparison result by comparing the ~~input~~ first installation key with the produced second installation key; and

installing the software by the installer if the first installation key corresponds to the second installation key in the comparison ~~result~~ results.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein ~~said authorizing agency is a credit company, and said ID~~ the credit card information is credit information of ~~said~~ the user regarding a credit card issued by ~~said~~ the credit company to ~~said~~ the user, and ~~said~~ the first installation key is produced in said issuing step by operating a designated calculation in accordance with ~~said~~ the credit card information.

3. (Currently Amended) A method key according to Claim 2, wherein ~~said~~ the credit card information contains a credit card number, a card holder's name, and validity of use, and the designated calculation is operated at least for one of ~~said~~ the credit card number, the card holder's name, and the validity of use in order to produce ~~said~~ the first installation key.

4. to 9. (Canceled)